

## **Survey Performance of Critical Care Nurses in Nasogastric Tube Feeding with Existing Standards in Ardabil Hospitals**

### **Abstract**

**Background and Aim :** Nasogastric tube feeding is a good nutritional method for patients in intensive care units. The implementation of nasogastric tube feeding is the responsibility of nurses. Improving the performance of nurses in nasogastric tube feeding reduces hospital costs and provides patients with better clinical outcomes. The purpose of this study was to compare the performance of nurses in nasogastric tube feeding with existing standards in Ardabil hospitals.

**Methods and Materials :** In this descriptive-analytical study, a demographic questionnaire and a standard nutritional checklist were used. The performance of 66 nurses in intensive care units of Ardabil hospitals was observed in 3 shifts in the morning, evening and night, and a total of 200 observations were performed. Using the Spss 24, the data were analyzed. T-test and one-way ANOVA analysis were used to determine the effects of demographic factors on nurses' performance. Significance level was considered 0.05.

**Results:** The average overall performance of the nurses in intensive care units of Ardabil hospitals in nasogastric tubes feeding was 68.8 with a standard deviation of 6.9 indicating a moderate level of performance. The results showed that nurses' performance was significantly different with  $P \leq 0.001$  in the three stages before, during and after tube feeding. In the present study, demographic factors and different shifts had no significant difference in the performance of nurses in nasogastric tube feeding.

**Conclusion:** The results of this study showed that the mean score of nurses' performance is moderate. Therefore, it is essential to train nurses on practical standards and to follow tube feeding protocols.

**Keywords:** Nurses' Performance, Intensive Care Unit, Nasogastric Tube Feeding